

Executive Head Teacher Mrs. A. Whelan
Deputy Head Teacher Infant School Ms. K Gaynor
Saint Joseph's Infant, School Waverley Ave, Wembley, HA9 6TA

Deputy Head Teacher Junior School Mr. S Nicklin
Saint Joseph's Junior School, Chatsworth Ave, Wembley, HA9 6BE

Saint Joseph's Infant and Junior Schools

Parental Letter Friday 24th October 2025

Value for October- Curiosity

Breakfast Club Daily
7:45-8:30 a.m.
Junior School Hall-
registration required
After School Club Infant
/Junior School Monday-
Friday
3:00 -4:15p.m

Monday 3rd November
Dance Club
3:30-4:30 p.m.
Taekwondo
3:30-4:30 p.m.

Tuesday 4th November
Gym Club
3:30-4:30p.m.
Chess Club
3:30-4:30 p.m.
Archery
3:30-4:30

Wednesday 5th November
Football Club
3:30-4:30 p.m.

Thursday 6th November
Art Club
3:30-4:30 p.m.
Year 3 Computing Club
3:15-4:15 p.m.
Fencing
3:30-4:30 p.m.

Friday 7th November
Gym Club
3:30-4:30 p.m.

We break up for half term today
Friday 24th October
School re-opens on Monday 3rd November

In assembly this week we thought about determination, persistence, perseverance and faithfulness. We linked this to last week's gospel reading about the widow who would not stop asking for help. We thought about how the judge did not listen but that God listens to us when we pray. We thought about how the more that we pray, the closer we grow to God.

Our mission was to consider: How we can be faithful in prayer.



Class assemblies – 9 a.m. in either school hall

Thursday 20th November Saint Christopher

Year Groups attending Parish 9:30 a.m. Mass

Wednesday 12th November Year 4

Wednesday 19th November Year 3

Forward Notice Parental Workshops- Reading and Phonics Workshops

These will take place at 8:45 a.m. in either school hall- workshops usually last about an hour.

Thursday 27th November Year 3

Parental Prayer Group

The next prayer group will take place on Friday 7th November from 8:30a.m. in the Prayer Room.

Notice from Saint Joseph's Parish

First Holy Communion Programme for pupils attending Catholic schools are invited to attend a Parent's Meeting on **Wednesday, 5th November 2025** at 5:30pm in the Pastoral Centre.

Nursery, Reception and Year 3 Applications for September 2026

Father Joseph will be signing the Certificate of Catholic Practice for applications for nursery, reception and Year 3 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. for entry next September 2026 on:

Monday 10th November- Year 3

Tuesday 11th November- Reception

Wednesday 12th November - Nursery

You will need to bring a copy of your child's baptismal certificate and also please bring your child with you.

The application packs have been sent home with current nursery and Year 2 pupils and nursery applications are available from the school office as well as the school website.

Parent Meetings

We will be holding parental meetings after half term on Monday 10th and Wednesday 12th November from 2:30-5:30p.m. This will give you the opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher and have a look at their work so far this term.

Appointments should now have been booked via the School Cloud appointment system. **Meetings will be in person in school.** If you still have not booked your appointment you will need to contact the office after half term.

School will end an hour earlier on both of these days so please ensure that you pick your child up as below on both days not just the day of your appointment:

Monday 10th and Wednesday 12th November children will be dismissed at the following times:

Reception 2:10 p.m.

Year 1 2:15 p.m. Year 2 2:20 p.m. Saint John Paul 2:20 p.m.

Year 3 2:10 p.m. Year 4 2:20 p.m.

Year 5 2:10 p.m. Year 6 2:20 p.m.

If they are in after school club or an extended day club, they will attend this as usual and do not need to be picked up at the earlier time.

Parental Meetings for Nursery Children

Nursery children will also have appointments scheduled on Monday 10th and Wednesday the 12th November.

However, nursery children will attend **their full day as usual on Monday 10th ending at 3:15 p.m.** but will need to be **picked up at 2:15p.m. on Wednesday 12th November.**

Brent Mental Health Support Team

Mental health continues to be a high priority within our schools and education as a whole. The government would like all schools and families to have support for pupil mental health. The Brent Mental Health Support Team (MHST) is an early intervention service which works in partnership with primary and secondary schools to support children, their families and school staff to build on their emotional understanding, wellbeing and resilience. They aim to work with difficulties which can be a common part of childhood and provide support early to reduce the need for further support later in life. This week on Monday and Wednesday our link practitioner gave out leaflets to many parents at home time. If you have any questions about the service please ask your child's class teacher, Ms. Gaynor, Mr. Nicklin or myself. Please have a look at the leaflet on page 9 giving more detail About what the service provides.

Class Prayer and Liturgy

We are offering parents a really special opportunity to attend one of your child's class liturgies across the term. This is a special class liturgy organised and led by the children. These will take place on the following days at 2:50p.m in your child's classroom.

Saint John Paul Thursday 20th November
Saint Teresa Wednesday 26th November
Saint George Wednesday 26th November
Saint Angela Thursday 27th November
Saint Catherine Monday 1st December
Saint Maximilian Kolbe Tuesday 2nd December
Saint Joan of Arc Tuesday 2nd December

Saint Faustina Wednesday 3rd December
Saint Vincent De Paul Wednesday 3rd December
Saint Christopher Thursday 4th December
Saint Jude Friday 5th December
Saint Bernadette Monday 8th December
Saint Mary Tuesday 9th December
Saint Francis Tuesday 9th December
Saint Patrick Monday 15th December

OPAL Playtimes

Please make sure that you have sent in your child's wellies and also a waterproof coat. Children will be outside playing in light drizzle so we need to ensure that they have waterproof clothing. All personal items should always have your child's name on. Please see the poster on page 13.

School Coats

Please can you ensure that children have a coat in school every day as the weather is very changeable at the moment. We do not sell school coats but the school fleeces are available at a cost of £18.50. They look very smart.

School Nurse Team- Flu Vaccination

Many children received their nasal flu vaccination last week. **There will be a second vaccination day on Tuesday 18th November. It is not too late to register your child to receive this.** It is really important that children are vaccinated. If you have any questions, please ask the office or email the team directly. See the flyer on page 10 which has links to registration.

Annual Parental Questionnaire

Thank you to those parents who completed the questionnaire last week. We now have 100 responses. We will keep the questionnaire open until Sunday 26th October. We will repeat the questionnaire at the end of the summer term again. Please find the link and QR code. I would appreciate you taking a moment to complete the form so that we can gather your views on any areas that you may wish to give us feedback on. This will help us to ensure that we continue to provide the best possible school experience for your child.

Many thanks in advance for completing this. <https://forms.gle/JprMJZK9zS19qqU6A>



Magic Breakfast

The School Council have taken on the role of breakfast champions and led an assembly this week to encourage everyone to eat breakfast every day. They will be launching a special competition next week. They have asked everyone to make a poster on the importance of having breakfast. This should be completed on an A4 page and can be decorated however they wish. The winning entries will



be displayed around the schools. The deadline for entries has been extended until after half term on Monday 3rd November.

Balance Bike Training

Reception pupils will be having balance bike training on the 5th, 6th and 7th November. More details have been sent directly to reception parents last week.

Year 6 Secondary School

Year 6 applications for admission to secondary school need to be submitted by October 31st 2025. I include the link below to further information on the Brent website.

Remember to submit an application to the individual school and also to complete your online eAdmissions application.

<https://www.brent.gov.uk/education-schools-and-learning/school-admissions/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place#planandprepare>

As schools are closed for half term, please ensure you email or record delivery applications to schools if you have not submitted them already as proof of an on-time application.

Brent Library Service

Brent library service have a range of half term events across the borough. For full details please see their parental newsletter which has been sent out to you with this newsletter. It would be wonderful if the children visited the library over half term.

Swimming

Vale Farm our swimming provider are running 'October Crash Courses' in swimming. These will be taking place across half term from Monday 27th to Friday 31st, priced at £29.50 for the week. I would encourage you to consider signing your child up for this as swimming is such an important life skill. Please see the flyer on page 11.

Online Safety

Each week we will include an information sheet which helps us navigate the online world. This week the National Online Safety guide links to World Mental Health Day and is about what parents and carers need to know about 'Memes' please see page 12.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and we try our best to support you particularly in terms of the dangers that children may encounter online. If you have any concerns, please contact me. All school staff and Governors have regular training. I remind you of the Designated Safeguarding Staff who have had additional higher-level training in safeguarding.

 **Safeguarding**  **Saint Joseph's Catholic Infant and Junior Schools**

At Saint Joseph's we are committed to the safety and happiness of all our children and adults in our school family. If you are concerned about a child, please talk to our designated safeguarding officers.

 Safeguarding Governor Mr. A. Thompson	 Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Mrs. L. Cooper Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	 Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Mrs. L. Cooper Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	 Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Mrs. L. Cooper Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
 Deputy DSL Mrs. L. Cooper Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	 Deputy DSL Mrs. L. Cooper Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	 Deputy DSL Mrs. L. Cooper Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	 Deputy DSL Mrs. L. Cooper Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Weekly Attendance Award

Well done to the winners of the attendance award for last week.

Junior School – Saint Mary and Saint Francis draw on an amazing 100%!

Infant School- Saint Teresa with 98%.



House Points



			
Matthew 1 st 5258 points	Mark 2 nd 5248 points	Luke 3 rd 5004 points	John 4 th 4554 points



House point totals 24th October 2025

Value Awards- October – Curiosity

Saint Patrick – Sheadon and Delanie	Saint Bernadette- Angel and Crivo
Saint Teresa- Bryan and Blasia	Saint George- Vlad and Erica
Saint John Paul- Nestor and Joycee	Saint Christopher- Oskar and Marissa
Saint Angela- Lintroy and Eleanor L	
Saint Catherine- Wayne and Alicia	Saint Jude- Darius and Melissa
Saint Mary- Kamille and Franciszek	Saint Francis- Savio and Lyza
Saint Joan of Arc- Kellan and Petrina	Saint Maximillian – Luz and Ethan
Saint Faustina- Eugene and Lisanne	Saint Vincent De Paul- Cyra and Santana

Congratulations to all of the children who demonstrated an understanding of the value of 'Curiosity'. Our value for November is '**Tolerance**'. The Prayer Focus sheet can be found on page 13.

Star Reader Award

Saint Patrick- Pearl	Saint Bernadette- Caden	
Saint Teresa- Elsa	Saint George- Waylan	
Saint John Paul- Archie	Saint Christopher- Borys	Saint Angela- Victoria
Saint Catherine- Vania	Saint Jude- Annsolina	
Saint Mary- Zoya	Saint Francis- Grace	
Saint Joan of Arc- Chrysler	Saint Maximillian Kolbe- Joel	
Saint Faustina- Staylon	Saint Vincent De Paul- Erica	

Star Writer Award

Saint Patrick – Achilles	Saint Bernadette- Lael	
Saint Teresa- Sean	Saint George- Kaylee	
Saint John Paul- Alven	Saint Christopher- Roshvan	Saint Angela- Enoch
Saint Catherine- Anthea	Saint Jude- Orion	
Saint Mary- Jaizelle	Saint Francis- Adayah	
Saint Joan of Arc- Addison	Saint Maximillian Kolbe- Isabella	
Saint Faustina- Elora	Saint Vincent De Paul- Krisha	

Star Mathematician Award

Saint Patrick – Neyska Saint Bernadette- Mysha
Saint Teresa- Conor Saint George- Lucas
Saint John Paul- Jinal Saint Christopher- Kaleb Saint Angela- Amelia
Saint Catherine- Joshua Saint Jude- Stallon
Saint Mary- Aleksander Saint Francis- Dashawan
Saint Joan of Arc- Leona Saint Maximillian Kolbe- Rayshawn
Saint Faustina- Elliot Saint Vincent De Paul- Igor

Prayer Leaders Caritas Award

For children chosen for their love and care to others and living out the Caritas values

Saint Patrick – Jayden Saint Bernadette- Heart
Saint Teresa- Bryan Saint George- Joyce B
Saint John Paul- Archie Saint Christopher- Saint Angela- Lintroy
Saint Catherine- Calysta Saint Jude- Mayzie
Saint Mary- Jonathan Saint Francis- Roseford
Saint Joan of Arc- Evelyn Saint Maximillian Kolbe- Alexis
Saint Faustina- Milena Saint Vincent De Paul- Rhea

Star of the Week

Saint Bernadette- Mysha	Saint Catherine- Renisa
Saint Patrick- Krizel	Saint Jude- Milanka
Saint George- Shae	Saint Mary- Chloe
Saint Teresa- Tristan	Saint Francis- Levin
Saint John Paul- Shane	Saint Joan of Arc- Lysha
Saint Angela - Velrica	Saint Maximilian Kolbe- Lilly
Saint Christopher- Ace	Saint Faustina- Shanoyah
	Saint Vincent De Paul- Cavalli



Prayer for Mary in October

Dear Mary,
you are the Mother of Jesus and our Mother too.
In October, we remember how special the Rosary is,
and how it helps us to think about Jesus' life and love.
Teach us to pray with faith and with thankful hearts.
Help us to be kind, patient, and forgiving like you.
Watch over our families, our friends, and our school.

When we pray the Rosary,
may we grow closer to Jesus, your Son,
and learn to trust in God's plan for us.

Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us.
Amen.

*Have a lovely half term.
Mrs. Whelan*





Brent MHST

(Mental Health Support Team)



Who are we?

The Mental Health Support Team (MHST) is an early intervention service which works in partnership with primary and secondary schools to support children, their families and school staff build on their emotional understanding, wellbeing and resilience. We aim to work with difficulties which can be a common part of childhood and provide support early to reduce the need for further support later in life.

What do we do?

1

We support parents 1:1 for 8 weeks when their child might be feeling particularly worried or stressed at this time or having challenges with their behaviour, using approaches that are proven to work.

2

We support schools with developing their whole school approach to mental health. This includes providing parent/carer coffee mornings on a range of wellbeing topics, group sessions (4 weeks+) for parents of children who may be experiencing similar difficulties, and educational workshops/ groups for primary school children. Some examples of wellbeing topics we might cover are transition/ change, exam/ academic stress, sleep hygiene, healthy routines, emotional regulation, friendships and many more.

3

We provide advice to school staff and liaise with other services to help young people get the right help and stay in education. This takes place through case discussions, consultation and signposting to other resources and organisations. We can also provide staff workshops, e.g. staff wellbeing.

If you are interested in making a referral to our service for 1:1 support please speak to your child's class teacher, Mrs Whelan or Miss Gaynor.



On Monday 20th October during pick-up at 3.10pm- your schools practitioner from the MHST will be handing out leaflets on the Infant School Playground. If you have any questions about the service please come along and ask.

STOP THE FLU! VACCINATE YOUR CHILD! PROTECT YOUR COMMUNITY!

Vaccinating your child will
STOP them from being seriously ill this winter and
protect vulnerable friends and family.

THE INJECTION

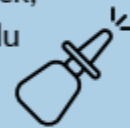


We offer a **PORK-FREE,**
GELATINE-FREE injection
considered a
faith-friendly alternative.

OR

NASAL VACCINE

No needles - just quick,
painless, effective flu
protection
(contains gelatine)



IT'S QUICK



IT'S FREE



GIVEN AT
SCHOOL



IT PROTECTS
YOUR LOVED
ONES

To complete a
consent form



Scan Here!

✉ brent@v-uk.co.uk

☎ 020 8432 7075

🌐 www.schoolvaccination.uk/flu

📺 YouTube: @vaccinationuk



SWIMMING CRASH COURSES

Progress your Childs Swimming by booking onto one of our Holiday Crash Courses.



Vale Farm Sports Centre

Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October

08:30	Stage 1
09:00	Stage 2
09:30	Stage 4
10:00	Stage 3

5-day Crash Course - £29.50 per course

Please call at reception, pop down to Vale Farm Sports Centre or email

valefarmswim@everyoneactive.com



EVERYONE

everyoneactive.com

LOVES TO LEARN A LIFE SKILL

everyone
ACTIVE

A regular safeguarding update will be provided with this newsletter to ensure that you have access to current useful information and guidance.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MEMES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Memes may look like simple jokes, but, for many teenagers, they form a shared cultural language. Quickly created and reworked, they spread across social media platforms as images with text or short videos. Nearly eight in ten teenagers share memes (79%, YPulse), making them part of daily life. While memes encourage creativity and participation, they can also spread misinformation or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

SPREADING MISINFORMATION

While memes help to communicate complex topics, they can also spread misinformation. Memes may sometimes include content presenting false facts or biased viewpoints, especially around health, politics, or current events and, as they're designed to be shared quickly, young people may not question their accuracy.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Memes are widely circulated, and not always age-appropriate, meaning young people may encounter explicit language, sexual content, or graphic imagery, even without searching for it. As memes spread fast on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, or WhatsApp, it's nearly impossible to filter them completely.

MASKED MESSAGES

Some memes are designed to be confusing or layered with hidden meanings, making them hard for parents, and, sometimes, other young people to understand. Online groups often create these memes to look like inside jokes, but they can sometimes conceal offensive, harmful, or misleading content.

HIDDEN HARMS & LOSING SENSITIVITY

When serious topics like violence, racism, or mental health are turned into jokes, children and young people may become less sensitive to these issues over time. While a funny meme may seem light-hearted, it can carry messages that belittle certain groups, encourage risky behaviour, or mock personal struggles. Repeated exposure through memes can make harmful behaviour seem normal or less important. Over time, this can blur their understanding of what is funny versus what is discriminatory, harmful, or damaging to themselves and others.

PERMANENT DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Unlike spoken jokes, memes leave a trail. Created or shared memes can resurface later and be misunderstood, even if intended as harmless. Once online, memes may be copied, saved, or spread beyond a young person's control - digital actions can follow them into their future, shaping how they are perceived by peers, teachers, or even employers long after the original meme has been shared.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Talk regularly with young people and try to understand their online world - discuss what they find funny about the memes, and why. By listening without judgement, you build trust, making it easier for them to come to you if they see something harmful. Open conversations also help children and teens think critically about the messages behind memes rather than simply accepting them at face value.

MODEL HEALTHY BOUNDARIES

Show children and teens positive online behaviours, such as taking breaks from screens, avoiding late-night scrolling, and engaging in offline activities. Setting clear routines around screen time at home can help to reinforce healthy boundaries and reduce the risks of overuse. By modelling balanced technology use, adults can help children and young people see that digital entertainment, including memes, should be just one part of life.

TEACH DIGITAL LITERACY

Help children and young people learn to question where information comes from and whether it's reliable - developing media literacy skills prepares young people to understand and navigate through their future online lives. Show them how memes can sometimes exaggerate or misrepresent facts for laughs, and encourage them to check credible sources when memes claim to present truth.

FOSTER EMPATHY ONLINE

Remind children and young people that memes should never come at someone else's expense. Encourage them to think about how a meme might make another person feel before sharing or creating it. Highlight examples of positive memes that celebrate creativity without hurting others. Fostering empathy, respect, and kindness in digital spaces will help them become more aware of promoting a safer, more supportive online culture.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Cristina Moreno-Almela is a Senior Lecturer in Digital Culture at Queen Mary University of London. She specialises in memes, online networks, and youth culture, examining how digital spaces shape identity and everyday life.



See full reference listen our website



The National College

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 15.10.2025

Wellington boots



Each child must have a pair of welly boots in school for wet days so their shoes do not get wet and for OPAL play. We also use them for our Forest School Sessions. A dry pair of sock must also be sent in with the wellies.

Your boots can be bought from any high-street retailer (Asda, Primark etc...)

Any colour or pattern is fine. Please clearly write your child's name on each boot, sharpie is good for this.

Outside for OPAL playtimes.

Please make sure all children have a **waterproof** coat with a hood in school with them everyday for OPAL playtimes.

The jacket should protect and keep the children's uniform dry during play.



School coat PLAIN BLACK COAT
NO PATTERNS

Your coat can be bought from any high-street retailer (Asda, Primark etc...) But must be plain black with no patterns or pictures.



St Joseph's Infant and Junior School Prayer Focus



November 2025

November is the month of the Holy Souls.

Children can pray for the eternal rest of family and friends who have died, those who have no one to pray for them and those who are bereaved.

A popular method of collecting prayer intentions is in the form of a Remembrance book or a basket in which to place the names of people on shaped paper, e.g., crosses, flowers etc. who have died. Visit the prayer room during November and add your names to our school book of remembrance.



Tolerance

The Gospel value of tolerance means showing love, patience, and understanding toward others, even when they are different from us or when we don't agree with them. Jesus taught us to "love your neighbour as yourself" (Mark 12:31), which means respecting people's differences - their opinions, cultures, and ways of life without judging or rejecting them.

Being tolerant doesn't mean we accept everything as right, but that we treat everyone with kindness and compassion, just as Jesus did with all kinds of people.

In short:

Tolerance = Respecting others' differences + Showing love like Jesus did.

Homework

Draw a picture (or write a few sentences) showing how your family showed tolerance this week.

It could be:

- Taking turns choosing a TV show
- Playing someone else's favourite game
- Listening kindly when someone disagreed



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 Other links to useful resources



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Search for our school by
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both the infant and junior
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HA9 6TA

St Joseph's Rc Infant School -
19/07/2024

